

Newsletter 26

The twenty sixth meeting of the ILBs' was held on 16 April 2019 at the Mee's. There were 7 attendees and Kris

Indoor Meeting 03/04/2019: - Thanks to Rita Merrick

An Icelandic Saga by Brian Gallop This was an interesting talk about the history, geology, volcanology and wild-life of Iceland. A surprising variety of plants which, mostly, have a stunted growth. Orchids, lupins, saxifrage and a very old tiny polar willow. Vast sculptures made of lava from the volcanic activity, a glimpse of the tectonic action of the earth's plates, very hot and cold springs often next to each other, glaciers - some black from the ash and very high, sheer cliffs. Bird-life include puffins, fulmars, terns, eider, grebes, whooper swans, ptarmigan, harlequin duck, great northern diver, snow and Lapland bunting, plovers. Many of these in breeding plumage including the female red-necked phalarope. A pochard is a rarity on Iceland! You can't have them all.

Local Sightings: - Thanks to Anne Sanford

Foulness Island – Brambling, Marsh Harrier, Buzzard, Teal.

Fobbing/Coryton – Fieldfare, Teal, Whimbrel, Blackcap, Chiffchaff, Little Grebe.

Hilary – 2 Little Egret in garden in Eastwood Rd N. Helen – Canvey – Sparrowhawk photographed in garden

Lynn – Cherry Orchard - Hirundine, Tawny Owl heard between 5-6pm.

Andrew Armstrong told Angela he saw Hirundine & Brambling at Gunners Park

Diana Smith – Manningtree – Black-tailed godwits, Hever Castle – Great crested grebe and mute swans on nests



Red Mason Bee



Sparrowhawks displaying photos from garden by Graham Mee

Forthcoming Events: -

The next indoor meeting will be Wednesday 1 May 2019 at the Belfairs Woodland Centre. Point Pelee and Northern Michigan by Neil Coe

The next field trip Tuesday 30 April at Hadleigh Country Park. Meet at 9:00am

Or Wednesday 8 May at Edwards Hall Country Park. Meet at 10:00am

Next Coach Trip – Sunday 12 May – Minsmere Phone Cath 01702 293357 to book a place, then send a cheque to Cath or pay at the May Indoor Mtg to secure seat.

The next Essex Wildlife Trust meeting will be September 2019

Any lady requiring transport to attend any event please contact Kris Mee.

The **next ILB meeting** is scheduled for **21 May 2019** at the Belfairs Woodland Centre. Meet at 10:00am for a walk or 10:30am for coffee and chat.

This newsletter will be available on the local group website at: <http://www.southendrspb.co.uk> . Click on ILBs on the Menu Bar.

If you no longer wish to hear from the RSPB South East Essex Local Group, please contact **Kris Mee 01702 525152 krismee28@googlemail.com** confirming your name and address and stating that you wish to unsubscribe from the RSPB South East Essex Local Group's communications.